IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Pate	ent Application of:	
Applicant(s):	Hara et al.) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL addressed
Serial No.:	Unassigned	to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.
Conf. No.:	Unassigned	October 27, 2003
Filed:	October 27, 2003	Date Express Mail No.: EV 032736975 US
For: MAGN	NETIC DISK APPARATUS))
Art Unit:	Unassigned)
Examiner:	Unassigned	<i>)</i>

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

Copy of PCT Search Report is also enclosed.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500 Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: (312) 360-0080 Facsimile: (312) 360-9315 Customer Number 24978 K:\1924\68654\DS Time Period 1 & 2.DOC

Patrick G. Burns Registration No. 29,367

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office				Attorney Docket No.: 1924.686	Serial No.: Unassigned			
				Applicant: Hara et al.				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Filing Date: October 27, 2003		Group: Unassigned		
U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*				Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
		Date		Name	Class	Subclass		
	5,870,242	Feb. 9, 1999	Abe et al.					
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FOREIGN P	PATENT DOCUMENTS		Ι				1	
							Translati	on
	Document Number	Date	Country		Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	03-016068	Jan. 24, 1991	Japan		<u> </u>		Abs.	
	8-195044	Jul. 30, 1996	Japan		ļ		Abs.	
	9-180355	Jul. 11, 1997	Japan				Abs.	
	11-007738	Jan. 12, 1999	Japan				Abs.	
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	WO 02/091381	Nov. 14, 2002	PCT				Abs.	
OTHER DO	CUMENTS (Including Aut	hor, Title, Date, Po	ertinent Page	es, Etc.)				
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Examiner			Da	te Considered				
*Examiner:	Initial if c	itation considered	, whether or	not citation is in conformance wit	h MPEP 60	09; Draw line	through o	itation
*Examiner:	Initial if o	itation considered t in conformance a	, whether or and not cons	not citation is in conformance wit idered. Include copy of this form	th MPEP 60 with next o	09; Draw line communication	through on to appli	itation cant.